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NSC BRIEFING

14 July 1960

JAPAN

- I. Hayato Ikeda, new head of the governing Liberal-Democratic party, is expected to succeed to the post of prime minister in the near future.
 - He has pledged to continue Kishi's policy of cooperation with the United States and the Free World,

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В. Any attempt by Ikeda to exercise strong leadership likely to be frustrated by party factionalism,

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New Prime Minister will face continuing internal security C. problem.

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- Ikeda's new government probably will hold general elections this II. fall or early next year.
 - Conservatives are expected to win majority, but it is too early to predict whether they will gain or lose legislative seats.
 - In present lower house, Conservatives hold 286 of 467 seats. В.
 - Unless they suffer serious election losses, likeda is likely to head the reorganized government.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Approved For Release 2008/07/14: CIA-RDP79R00890A001200070005-2 accommodation with Communist China following ratification of the security treaty.

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- Japanese leftists, encouraged by their successes in helping to force IV. Kishi's resignation and the cancellation of President Eisenhower's visit, can be expected to resort to mass demonstrations and violence on future issues.
 - They are maintaining the united front campaign against the security treaty and are engaged in a series of demonstrations at US military bases and installations.
 - Popular front probably also will be utilized in the election campaign.